

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A broadcast storing and displaying apparatus which comprises:

a network;

a network management apparatus for managing said network; and

plural types of video apparatuses connected to said network, each of said video apparatuses being capable of inquiring about state information of all others of said video apparatuses by sending an inquiry to said network management apparatus,

wherein each of said plural types of video apparatuses transmits the state information relating to at least one of functions or application program interfaces, service-availability and stored programs thereof to said network, said network management apparatus stores the states state information of said plural types of video apparatuses, and ~~each~~ when one of said plural types of video apparatuses inquires about the states state information of the other video apparatuses to said network management apparatus ~~and then determines, said one of said video apparatuses determines,~~ based solely on ~~information received regarding the states~~ state information of the other video apparatuses provided by said network management apparatus ~~and without any user input,~~ a video apparatus to be a communication partner on the basis of the states state information of the other video apparatuses ~~which are obtained from said network management apparatus.~~

2. (Previously Presented) The broadcasting storing and display apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein there are provided a plurality of video apparatuses of the same type which are connected to said network.

3. (Currently Amended) A broadcast storing and displaying apparatus which comprises:

a network; and

plural types of video apparatuses connected to said network, wherein each of said plural types of video apparatuses ~~inquires~~ is capable of inquiring about ~~the states~~ state information relating to at least one of functions or application program interfaces, service-availability and stored programs of the other video apparatuses through said network to the other video apparatuses and then wherein one of said video apparatuses determines, based solely on information received regarding the ~~states~~ state information of the other video apparatuses ~~and without any user input~~ as received by said one of said video apparatuses based on a request output by said one of said video apparatuses, a video apparatus to be a communication partner on the basis of the ~~states~~ state information of the other video apparatuses which are obtained from the other video apparatuses.

4. (Previously Presented) The broadcasting storing and [display apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein there are provided a plurality of video apparatuses of the same type which are connected to said network.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A video apparatus connected to a network to which a network management apparatus for managing the network and plural types of video apparatuses are connected, which comprises:

means for transmitting ~~the state~~ information relating to at least one of functions or application program interfaces, service-availability and stored programs thereof to said network; and

means for inquiring about the ~~states~~ state information of other video apparatuses to said network management apparatus and then determining a

video apparatus to be a communication partner on the basis of the states state information of said other video apparatuses which are obtained from said network management apparatus.

8. (Original) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein there are provided a plurality of video apparatuses of the same type which are connected to said network.

9. (Currently Amended) A video apparatus connected to a network to which plural types of video apparatuses are connected, which comprises:

means for transmitting ~~the~~ state information relating to at least one of functions or application program interfaces, service-availability and stored programs thereof to said network; and

means for inquiring about the states state information of other video apparatuses to said other video apparatuses and then determining a video apparatus to be a communication partner on the basis of the states state information of said other video apparatuses which are obtained from said other video apparatuses.

10. (Original) The video apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein there are provided a plurality of video apparatuses of the same type which are connected to said network.

11. - 27. (Withdrawn from Consideration)

28. (Currently Amended) A broadcast receiving and storing apparatus which comprises:

a broadcast receiving component for receiving a broadcast program;

broadcast storing components for storing broadcast programs;

a managing component for managing states state information relating to at least one of functions or application program interfaces, service-availability and stored programs of said broadcast storing components; and

a network for connecting said broadcast receiving component, said broadcast storing components and said managing component;

wherein said managing component stores ~~said~~ states the state information; and

said broadcasting receiving component selects one or more broadcast storing components from said broadcast storing components as broadcast storing components which store a program which said broadcasting receiving component receives on the basis of ~~states~~ the state information obtained from said managing component through said network.

29. (Currently Amended) A broadcast receiving and storing apparatus which comprises:

a broadcast receiving component for receiving a broadcast program;  
broadcast storing components for storing broadcast programs; and  
a network for connecting said broadcast receiving component, and  
said broadcast storing components;

wherein said broadcasting receiving component selects one or more broadcast storing components from said broadcast storing components as broadcast storing components which store a program which said broadcasting receiving component receives on the basis of ~~states~~ state information relating to at least one of functions or application program interfaces, service-availability and stored programs obtained from said broadcast storing components through said network.

30. - 34. (Withdrawn from Consideration)

35. (Currently Amended) The broadcasting, storing and displaying apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the communication partner is automatically selected by the one of the video apparatuses based on information concerning currently available resources for each of the other apparatuses.

36. (Previously Added) The broadcasting, storing and displaying apparatus as claimed in claim 35, wherein the currently available resources of each of the other video apparatuses do not include resources that are currently assigned to any of the video apparatuses.

37. (Currently Amended) The broadcasting, storing and displaying apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the communication partner is automatically selected by the one of the video apparatuses based on information concerning currently available resources for each of the other apparatuses.

38. (Previously Added) The broadcasting, storing and displaying apparatus as claimed in claim 37, wherein the currently available resources of each of the other video apparatuses do not include resources that are currently assigned to any of the video apparatuses.

39. (Newly Added) The broadcasting, storing and displaying apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein, when another video apparatus is newly connected to said network, said another video apparatus outputs on the network, without first being requested to do so by any other apparatus, information concerning the functions or application program interfaces, the service-availability and the stored programs of said another video apparatus.

40. (Newly Added) The broadcasting, storing and displaying apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein, when another video apparatus is newly connected to said network, said another video apparatus outputs on the network, without first being requested to do so by any other apparatus, information concerning the functions or application program interfaces, the service-availability and the stored programs of said another video apparatus.